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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Two Class and One Overall Victories For Ann Arbor Driver Maloof at MidOhio NASA Race Weekend

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (August 16, 2009) – Ann Arbor driver Christian Maloof earned 1<sup>st</sup> place finishes in each of National Auto Sport Association (NASA)'s GTS (Thunder) Division races on August 15-16. Maloof, whose 1995 Porsche 993 RSCS competes in the GTS3 Division, competed in a field of 47 (Thunder) cars and the GTS field to earn two class wins and one overall GTS victory. Maloof's Saturday and Sunday wins, his first in-class/overall finishes in his second year racing with NASA, come close on the heels of several strong finishes in the 2009 Grand-Am KONI Challenge, where he races with Freedom Autosport.

On Saturday, Maloof had a strong practice, followed by qualifying in P3. "We hit all our target times in practice and were still making small improvements even in qualifying, so I felt very confident about the race," said Maloof. Saturday's Thunder GTS race, (a field of 47 cars including German Touring Classes 2-4), green-flagged at 2:10 pm. Of the race, Maloof said, "I had a really great start, moving from third to second in class in the first corner," adding, "I was able to lock onto the lead car in the first few laps. I knew at that point I could pick my moment to take the lead." Once he earned the class lead, his focus shifted to an overall victory. "There were a few very fast cars in the field, but one spun and another had a small incident while I was leading in class," said Maloof, adding, "after that, I knew if I maintained a good pace and took care of the tires I would take the overall win." At checker, Maloof earned first-place finishes both in class and overall.

For Sunday's race, Maloof aimed for a repeat win, but there was an additional challenge: Temperatures in Lexington, OH escalated to 92 degrees, putting additional stress on the car and tires. "I was hoping I could be gentle on the car, but with the heat, I knew I could easily overheat the car, tires or even me," said Maloof. Regardless of heat-induced low grip, Maloof qualified P2 in class and P3 overall in a field of 52 entrants, posting a 1:35 lap time: "I managed a good lap, catching traffic only at the tail end of my flyer."

The Sunday race proved to be more eventful, including both contact and a dramatic on-track incident. Said Maloof, "on the first lap, three turns into the race, I lost a position with a little side to side contact at the bottom of *madness*, but we were both able to continue the race. I regained the position one lap later, but was initially concerned the toe or camber on my car could have been affected. However, all was well!"

Added Maloof, "the race was extremely challenging, with a great deal of out-of-class racing going on. I was forced to go toe to toe with a GTS5 car that was really fast in the straights, but defensive in the corners. I thought this would cost me the race, but I was able to reel in the lead car with four laps to go. As I caught him in the keyhole, he

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lost a wheel, rendering him airborne. Luckily he was ok, and I was able to avoid the incident and finish in first place, and P4 overall.”

After claiming his second trophy for the weekend, Maloof said, “it was nothing short of a great weekend at MidOhio. The car was great and the competition was strong. I'd like to thank my sponsors, specifically Rennstatt Racing and David Yudowin, who provided on-site support for this weekend's races. Also PorschePurist.com, Community Auto Wash, Kolossos Printing, Stony Creek Collision, OG Racing and Jim Maloof Realtors. Without their support in 2009, this weekend wouldn't have been possible!”

Maloof next participates in endurance and GTS races at Gingerman Raceway on September 4-5, 2009. For more information about Christian Maloof please visit [christianmalooof.com](http://christianmalooof.com).

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